(d) and (e) The guidelines have been modified to the extent to rotate the business of insurance of Indian Airlines' fleet amongst the four public sector insurance companies in order to create a level playing field and to gain the advantage of strengths/experience of all the companies.

Private airlines to overseas destinations

1169. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are committed to permit the private airlines to fly to more overseas destinations;

(b) whether AI and IA have been unable to utilise the rights bilaterally negotiated with Governments of flight destinations; and

(c) whether Government would consider permitting the private airlines fly the same routes instead of giving the unused bilateral rights to foreign airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Government has presently permitted Private Domestic Scheduled Operators (PDSOs) to operate to SAARC countries against unutilised entitlements of the Indian side subject to the provision for designation of multiple airlines in the respective Air Services Agreement.

(b) Operation of international air services by Air India and Indian Airlines is a matter of commercial judgement of the concerned airlines depending upon the fleet availability and traffic demands. Designated Airlines of India are utilising most of the commercially viable rights that are available to them to the extent permitted by the availability of aircraft and other resources.

(c) At present, the operation of private airlines to SAARC countries are permitted only on the unutilised traffic rights of Indian side.

Recovery of dues from airlines

1170. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of airlines owe huge amount of money to Government on account of various levies and taxes;